

## Plymouth School Committee

April 23, 2007

A meeting of the Plymouth School Committee was held on Monday, April 23, 2007, at Plymouth Community Intermediate School at 7:00 p.m.

Members present were Linda McAlduff, John White, Margie Burgess, Jane Freedman, Patricia Adelman, Nicole Manfredi, and Dennis Begley.

Present from Administration were Barry Haskell, Dr. Carol Young, Gary Maestas, and Robert Gurek.

Mrs. McAlduff opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Moment of Silence was offered for the following: Esther Maloney, who served 34 years as an Elementary Classroom Teacher; Kevin King, a 2006 graduate of Plymouth South High School; and for members of the Virginia Tech school community.

1.0 To convene a Public Hearing to consider adopting a resolution not to participate in the School Choice Program for School Year 2007-2008 as set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 12B and take the necessary action(s).

1.1 To conduct the Public Hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to convene a Public Hearing to consider adopting a resolution not to participate in the School Choice Program for School Year 2007-2008 as set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 12B, seconded by Mr. Begley. Vote to convene a Public Hearing is unanimous.

Mr. Haskell recommended not participating in the School Choice Program due to lack of space. Mrs. McAlduff noted a resolution to continue not participating in the School Choice Program for School Year 2007-2008. No further discussion.

1.2 To adjourn the Public Hearing.

Motion by Mrs. Freedman to adjourn the Public Hearing by Mrs. Freedman, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to adjourn the Public Hearing is unanimous.

Motion by Mrs. Freedman to not participate in the School Choice Program for School Year 2007-2008 as set forth in M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 12B, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to not

participate in the School Choice Program for School Year 2007-2008 is unanimous.

- 2.0 To receive comments from the general public.

Michael Withington from Precinct 5, parent of two children in the Plymouth School System, spoke favorably on the effort of the "Random Acts of Kindness" event sponsored by Mr. Palladino.

- 3.0 To receive comments from student representatives.

None present.

- 4.0 To receive comments from the Education Association of Plymouth & Carver.

Frank Smith, Vice President of EAPC, spoke around issues of the new Memorials policy. He noted that the EAPC supports the candidacy of Barbara Tremblay, Robert Bielen, and David Brown, for School Committee elections. He suggested the Committee consider a policy related to myspace.com regarding posting of false teacher profiles. Lastly, he welcomed participation at "Grease" performances by the PCIS Drama Department.

Mr. Haskell invited Brian Palladino to the table and introduced him as the new Principal at Plymouth Community Intermediate School. The Committee congratulated and welcomed him.

- 5.0 Communications

- 5.1 Correspondence

Mr. White read a letter from the Massachusetts Council for the Social Studies to Amy Brown, geography teacher at PCIS, announcing her as the recipient of the John Reilly Award for Teaching Geography.

- 5.2 Retirements

Dr. Young announced the retirement of Ellen Barker, Social Studies teacher from PCIS. On behalf of the Committee, Mrs. Freedman thanked Ms. Barker for her thirteen years of service at PCIS and for her contribution to excellence in education in Plymouth, wishing her well in retirement.

- 6.0 To receive School Improvement Plans from the following schools and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Haskell noted that each year all schools are asked to prepare a School Improvement Plan containing congruent goals at each level, based on No Child Left Behind Standards (ELA & Math), and to devise Improvement Plans with measurable outcomes. Mrs. McAlduff reiterated that each School Improvement Plan contains the Plymouth Public Schools Mission Statement, as well as No Child Left Behind goals. She read same aloud.

#### 6.1 Plymouth North High School

Mr. Siever introduced the School Improvement Plan for Plymouth North High School, which includes goals in ELA, Math, School Climate, and Student Achievement, highlighting the objectives of these goals. He commented on the status and accomplishments of the 2006-2007 School Council goals. Mr. Siever introduced representatives of the PNHS School Council, and a presentation of each goal and its objectives was made. A discussion followed.

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to accept the School Improvement Plan for Plymouth North High School, seconded by Mr. White. Vote to approve School Improvement Plan for PNHS is unanimous.

#### 6.2 Federal Furnace Elementary School

Margaret McKay, Principal and Co-Chair, introduced and thanked the members of the School Council and discussed goals and objectives of the School Improvement Plan for Federal Furnace Elementary School, highlighting the accomplishments and status of the 2006-2007 School Council goals. A presentation of each goal and its objectives was made. A discussion followed.

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to approve the School Improvement Plan for Federal Furnace Elementary School, seconded by Mrs. Freedman. Vote to approve School Improvement Plan for Federal Furnace Elementary School is unanimous.

Meeting into recess at 8:30 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

#### 6.3 Nathaniel Morton Elementary School

Cynthia Silva, Principal and Co-Chair, introduced and thanked the members of the School Council and discussed goals and objectives of the School Improvement Plan for Nathaniel Morton Elementary School, highlighting the accomplishments and status of the 2006-2007 School Council goals. A presentation of each goal and its objectives was made, noting the addition of a new Community

Outreach Goal. A discussion followed.

Motion by Mrs. Burgess to approve the School Improvement Plan for Nathaniel Morton Elementary School, seconded by Mrs. Freedman. Vote to approve the School Improvement Plan for Nathaniel Morton Elementary School is unanimous.

7.0 To discuss high school space.

Mr. Haskell noted that they continue to work on the Statements of Interest and have been asked to provide additional demographic data to Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), prior to July 1, 2007.

8.0 To discuss the FY08 budget and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Haskell reported they are preparing the annual budget book. He noted a meeting that day with all Town departments and announced an additional \$472,503 in the FY08 budget from an increase in Chapter 70 money and Town revenue. He announced the need to revisit the level service budget and look at the needs of individual schools. Adjustments in budget presentation will be presented at the next School Committee meeting. A discussion of potential uses of the additional money followed.

9.0 Reports

9.1 Calendar of Events

Noted was a correction in the election date to May 12<sup>th</sup>, a joint meeting with the Selectmen and Planning Board on May 8<sup>th</sup>, and an annual dinner theater "Disney Extravaganza" at Plymouth South High School cafetorium by the Music Department and Culinary Arts on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

9.2 To receive reports and proposals from Committee members.

Mrs. Manfredi noted on April 12<sup>th</sup> the Curriculum Committee approved a new Civics program for Grades 5-8 which includes a service-learning component. Mrs. Adelman encouraged any Committee members to join the Massachusetts Association of School Committees Advocacy Committee and to attend Day on the Hill on May 1<sup>st</sup>, noting issues to be addressed. Mrs. McAlduff discussed her attendance at the National School Board Association Conference in San Francisco. She will prepare a detailed report for presentation to the Committee. Mr. Maestas noted a Robotics Rally for ARL students at Indian Brook Elementary School on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Burgess announced the names of students selected to be the ambassadors from Plymouth to Shichigahama, our sister town in Japan.

- 9.3 To receive a report from the Plymouth Permanent School Building Committee.

Nothing to report.

- 9.4 To receive a report from the Plymouth Building Committee.

Mr. White noted a meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup> surrounding the on-going HVAC remodeling which is on schedule. Another tour was taken.

- 9.5 To receive a report from the Communications Subcommittee.

Mr. Begley requested ten to fifteen minutes in next agenda to present the website.

- 9.6 To receive reports and proposals from the Superintendent.

Mr. Haskell noted the joint meetings with Selectmen and Planning Board on May 8<sup>th</sup>. He announced that due to closure of PCIS for HVAC renovations, at least three School Committee Meetings (June 18, July 16, and Aug. 20<sup>th</sup>) would be relocated. Plymouth South Middle School is the recommended site for any relocated meetings, and the meetings will not be televised.

- 9.7 Personnel

Dr. Young announced five appointments, including two teachers, one custodian and two coaches. She also reported seven leaves of absence and seven resignations.

- 10.0 To receive minutes from the following meetings and take the necessary action(s).

- 10.1 April 2, 2007

Motion by Mrs. Manfredi to approve the minutes, seconded by Mrs. Adelman. Vote to approve the minutes is unanimous.

- 11.0 To receive a schedule of bills and take the necessary action(s).

Mr. Gurek recommended FY07 A/P Warrant #44 dated April 16, 2007, in the amount of \$1,207,827.98. Motion by Mr. White to approve Warrant #44 in the amount stated, seconded by Mrs. Manfredi. Vote to approve payment of Warrant #44 is unanimous.

- \*12.0 To discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining and unaffiliated contracts pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 23B (3) and take the necessary action(s).

Motion by Mr. White, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategies with respect to collective bargaining and unaffiliated contracts pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B (3), seconded by Mrs. Adelman. On a roll call vote, all voting in favor, approved unanimously.

Into Executive Session at 9:32 p.m.

Out of Executive Session at 11:05 p.m.

Motion by Mrs. Freedman, seconded by Mr. White, to adjourn. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary